

## **6.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

### **6.1 BACKGROUND**

A field development environmental assessment (EA) was submitted to the BLM PRRA in May 1996 by Intoil for additional natural gas development in the Cooper Reservoir Unit. The subject EA was submitted to BLM during the scoping period for the Cave Gulch-Bullfrog-Waltman Natural Gas Development Project (CGBWNGDP) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). In conjunction with scoping for the CGBWNGDP EIS, BLM's Wyoming Reservoir Management Group (WRMG) prepared a Preliminary Reservoir Analysis of the CGBWNGDP, with said analysis completed by the WRMG on February 20, 1996. This analysis, along with the subsequent Final Geologic, Well Spacing, and Reserve Evaluation Report on the CGBWNGDP (completed by BLM's WRMG on June 3, 1996) determined the Cooper Reservoir Natural Gas Development Project to be geologically separate from the Cave Gulch-Bullfrog-Waltman Project Area. However, it was determined by the BLM PRRA that activities proposed in both project areas would cumulatively contribute to the anticipated impacts upon air quality and raptor habitat; consequently, the environmental analyses of both projects were to be completed concurrently. The CGBWNGDP EIS was completed in August 1997; however, staffing constraints precluded the preparation of a concurrent analysis of the Cooper Reservoir Natural Gas Development Project.

The Cooper Reservoir Natural Gas Development Project Environmental Assessment was prepared by an independent environmental consulting firm, with the guidance, participation, and independent evaluation of the Bureau of Land Management. A list of the personnel responsible for document preparation, and their individual responsibilities are provided in Section 6.4.

### **6.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Public participation, consultation, and coordination for the proposed Cooper Reservoir Natural Gas Development Project occurred through press releases, public meetings, scoping notices, and individual contacts. Some of these occurred while the CGBWNGDP EIS was being prepared; others occurred subsequent to signing of the CGBWNGDP EIS Record of Decision. The contact dates and actions taken are summarized below. All of the information is available for review at the BLM PRRA office in Mills, Wyoming.

June 14, 1996. BLM issued a press release informing the public of an open house scheduled for June 20 to discuss Intoil, Inc.'s proposed Natural Gas Interim Development Plans for the Cooper Reservoir Unit area. The plan provided for 5 federal wells to be drilled in 1996 while the environmental assessment for the natural gas development project was being prepared.

2. June 20, 1996. An open house was held to discuss development of federal oil and gas leases in the Cooper Reservoir Unit area during preparation of the environmental assessment for the natural gas development project. The open house was attended by 32 people.
3. May 13, 1997. A scoping notice was mailed to agencies, organizations, entities, and those individuals who attended the open house on June 20, 1996 in order to gather information that would aid in the identification of potentially significant issues and concerns relative to proposals from Intoil, Inc. and Prima Oil & Gas Company to drill 19 additional wells within a 1,842.07 acre project area.
4. May 15, 1997. BLM issued a statewide press release informing the public that Platte River Resource Area was conducting scoping regarding natural gas development in the Cooper Reservoir field. Additional information provided in the release was the proximity of Cooper Reservoir to the Cave Gulch-Bullfrog-Waltman project area. The release further explained that while Cooper Reservoir had been determined to be geologically separate from the Cave Gulch project, the cumulative effects of proposed development in both areas would be considered for air quality and raptor nesting habitat.
5. November 13, 1997. A second scoping notice was mailed to agencies, organizations, entities, and those individuals who responded to the May 1997 scoping notice and/or attended the open house held on June 20, 1996 to gather information concerning the expansion of the project area to a maximum of 85 wells, affecting a total of 6,282.38 acres.
6. November 14, 1997. A scoping notice was mailed to representatives of Native American Tribes requesting their help in identifying any sensitive sites in the Cooper Reservoir area which might require special consideration for spiritual, cultural, or historical reasons.
7. November 20, 1997. BLM issued a statewide press release informing the public of the expansion of the Cooper Reservoir Natural Gas Development Project Area to a maximum of 85 wells, affecting 6,282.38 acres.
8. February 23, 1998. BLM personnel met with the District Ranger and the Cloud Peak Wilderness Coordinator, USDA Forest Service, Buffalo Ranger District to gather information on issues and concerns relative to air quality in the Bighorn National Forest and specifically in the Cloud Peak Wilderness Area.

As a result of the public participation process, one written comment was received at the open house of June 20, 1996. Six comments were received during the initial scoping period during May/June of 1997; and an additional four comments were received during the second scoping period during November/December of 1997.

## **6.3 AGENCIES, INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED**

As indicated above, numerous contacts have been made during the course of this environmental analysis. The following agencies, organizations, entities, and individuals (or their representatives) who responded to scoping notices and/or attended the open house referenced in Section 6.2 were notified during the preparation of this analysis document. Separate consultations were conducted with many of the state and federal agencies identified below in order to obtain specific information concerning potential impacts to individual resources within their jurisdictional purview.

### **6.3.1 Federal Government/Federal Agencies Contacted**

#### Congressional Delegation for the State of Wyoming

- a. Representative Barbara Cubin, Field Office; Casper Wyoming
- b. Senator Mike Enzi, Field Office; Casper, Wyoming
- c. Senator Craig Thomas, Field Office; Casper, Wyoming

#### 2. Department of Agriculture

- a. U.S. Forest Service, Buffalo Ranger District; Buffalo, Wyoming
- b. U.S. Forest Service, Douglas Ranger District; Douglas, Wyoming
- c. U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region; Lakewood, Colorado

#### 3 Department of Defense

- a. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Omaha, Nebraska
- b. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Cheyenne, Wyoming

#### 4. Department of the Interior

- a. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Cheyenne, Wyoming

#### 5. Environmental Protection Agency

- a. Region VIII; Denver, Colorado

### **6.3.2 State of Wyoming Contacts**

- 1 Honorable Jim Geringer, Governor; Cheyenne, Wyoming
2. Department of Environmental Quality; Cheyenne, Wyoming
- 3 Department of Transportation; Casper, Wyoming
4. Federal Land Policy Office; Cheyenne, Wyoming
5. Game and Fish Department; Casper, Wyoming
6. Game and Fish Department; Cheyenne, Wyoming
7. Game and Fish Department; Lander, Wyoming
8. Oil and Gas Conservation Commission; Casper, Wyoming
- 9 Representative Bruce Hinchey, Wyoming State Legislature; Casper, Wyoming
- 10 State Engineer; Cheyenne, Wyoming
- 1 State Land and Investments Office; Cheyenne, Wyoming

### **6.3.3 Local Governments/Organizations Contacted**

1. Natrona County Commissioners; Casper, Wyoming
2. Natrona County Planner; Casper, Wyoming
3. Natrona County Treasurer; Casper, Wyoming

### **6.3.4 Individuals, Citizens Groups, and Regional Societies Contacted**

- 1 Velma Pingetzer, Deer Creek Ranch; Shoshoni, Wyoming
2. Greg Mohl; Casper, Wyoming
- J.W. MacGuire; Casper, Wyoming
4. Kit Jennings; Casper, Wyoming
- 5 Mike Kozimko; Midland, Texas

6. Pauline Hitt; Casper, Wyoming
7. Ty Perkins; Casper, Wyoming
8. Murie Audubon Society; Casper, Wyoming
9. Wyoming Outdoor Council; Lander, Wyoming

### **6.3.5 Industry/Business Contacts**

Double Eagle Petroleum & Mining Company; Casper, Wyoming

2. Frontier Well Service Inc.; Casper, Wyoming
3. Halliburton Energy Services, Inc.; Evansville, Wyoming
4. Halliburton Energy Services, Inc.; Mills, Wyoming
5. Heitzman Drill-Site Services; Casper, Wyoming
6. Hose & Rubber Supply; Casper, Wyoming
7. Inter-Mountain Pipe Company; Casper, Wyoming
8. Intoil, Inc.; Englewood, Colorado
9. KN Energy, Inc.; Casper, Wyoming
10. Petroleum Association of Wyoming; Casper, Wyoming
11. Prima Oil & Gas Company; Denver, Colorado
12. Pronghorn Archaeological Services; Mills, Wyoming
13. SST Energy Corporation; Casper, Wyoming
14. Sierra Resources, LLC; Casper, Wyoming
15. SWACO; Casper, Wyoming
16. Thunder Basin Environmental Consulting; Casper, Wyoming
17. Weatherford Enterra U.S., Inc.; Casper, Wyoming

### **6.3.6 Native American Interests Contacted**

- 1 Crow Tribal Administration; Crow Agency, Montana
2. Crow Tribal Council; Crow Agency, Montana
3. Del Clair, Eastern Shoshone Traditional Elder; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
4. Eastern Shoshone Business Council; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
5. Eastern Shoshone Tribal Council; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
6. Eastern Shoshone Tribal Preservation Office; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
7. Francis Brown, Northern Arapaho Spiritual Leader; Kinnear, Wyoming
8. Haman Wise, Eastern Shoshone Traditional Elder; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
9. Harold Smith, Northern Arapaho Traditional Elder; Kinnear, Wyoming
10. John Schumacker, Eastern Shoshone Tribal Attorney; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
- 11 Medicine Wheel Alliance; Crow Agency, Montana
12. Medicine Wheel Coalition for Sacred Sites of North America; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
13. Northern Arapaho Business Council; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
14. Northern Arapaho Tribal Council; Fort Washakie, Wyoming
15. Northern Cheyenne Cultural Committee; Lame Deer, Montana
16. Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council; Lame Deer, Montana
17. Oglala Lakota Nation; Pine Ridge, South Dakota
18. Oglala Sioux Tribal Administration; Pine Ridge, South Dakota
19. Steven Brady, Northern Cheyenne Spokesman; Lame Deer, Montana

### **6.4 LIST OF PREPARERS**

The following tables identify those BLM and consulting individuals that played a key role in the preparation of this Environmental Assessment.

**Table 6.1**

**Interdisciplinary Reviewers from the Bureau of Land Management**

Name	Title
<b>Platte River Resource Area Office</b>	
Linda Slone	Project Lead, Environmental Protection Specialist
Chris Arthur	Archaeologist
Willie Fitzgerald	Wildlife Biologist
John Menghini	Petroleum Engineer
Mike Phillips	Rangeland Management Specialist
Rod Sanders	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Celia Skillman	Realty Specialist
<b>Casper District Office</b>	
Laurie Bryant	Paleontologist
Joe Meyer	Soil Scientist
Roger Miller	Geologist
<b>Wyoming State Office</b>	
Ron Hilton	Environmental Scientist
Richard Schuler	Physical Scientist
Roger Wickstrom	Natural Resource Scientist
<b>National Applied Resources Science Center</b>	
Scott F. Archer	Senior Air Resource Specialist

**Table 6.2**

**Principal Interdisciplinary Team**

Name	Affiliation	Responsibility
Robert M. Anderson	Anderson Environmental Consulting	Project Manager, Principal Author
Michelle Ayers	TRC Environmental Corporation	Air Quality
Marvin L Hatcher	Pronghorn Archaeological Services	Cultural Resources
Tracy Henline	Uintah Engineering & Land Surveying, Inc.	Cartography
Hal Marshall	Uintah Engineering & Land Surveying, Inc.	Cartography
James G. Zapert	TRC Environmental Corporation	Air Quality